

I am writing to express my opposition to the new laws that would cause further media consolidation. Democracy depends on a free press, and a free press means having a variety of independent news sources. Large corporations will not serve the public interest in the way that local news outlets do. For example, when local authorities need to warn their community they must be able to contact real people at the local radio station. When the local station is owned by a media giant, such as Clear Channel, there will be no real people at the station to get the word out. Most Americans don't even know consolidation is happening. Much more publicity and debate need to take place so that more people will understand the crucial importance of independent media.